

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
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USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214217

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, NATO

SUBJECT:REPORT -- AN ASSESSMENT OF THE LOGISTIC COMMAND
MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND POSTURE OF ACE-SHAPE-NATO

REF: USNATO 08365, DTG 011551Z SEP 77

1. WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED MISSION VIEWS EXPRESSED
IN REFTEL CONCERNING DISTRIBUTION OF GENERAL HEISER'S
REPORT AND BELIEVE THAT THE RECOMMENDED APPROACH MAY BE
OVERLY CAUTIOUS. WE AGREE WITH MISSION THAT BROAD
DISTRIBUTION TO NATIONS MIGHT BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE AT
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THIS TIME, BUT BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE TO MAKE WIDER DISTRIBUTION
THAN THAT RECOMMENDED.

2. ONE OF THE PURPOSES FOR DOING THE HEISER STUDY WAS TO
BE ABLE TO RELEASE IT TO THE ALLIES AS A BASIS FOR A
BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND HOPEFULLY A COMMON VIEW OF MANY
ALLIANCE LOGISTICS PROBLEMS. WHILE WE AGREE THAT THE

POSITION OF GENERAL HEISER AS TASK FORCE DIRECTOR IS A FACTOR TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS DICTATES REMOVING GENERAL HEISER'S NAME FROM THE STUDY. AS MISSION KNOWS, GENERAL HEISER MADE VERY BROAD CONTACTS

DURING AND AFTER COMPLETION OF HIS STUDY AND MANY ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES ALREADY KNOW THAT HE PRODUCED THE STUDY. DELETING HIS NAME COULD APPEAR TO BE SUBTERFUGE. FURTHER, WE HAVE RELEASED OTHER US STUDIES WITH PERHAPS MUCH GREATER POTENTIAL FOR SENSITIVITY WITHOUT DELETION OF THE NAMES OF THE AUTHORS. A CASE IN POINT IS THE KOMER STUDIES, WHICH CAN BE SEEN BY THE ALLIES AS THE FOUNDATION FOR MUCH OF THE PRESENT LONG-TERM PROGRAM EFFORT. THESE STUDIES PRESENTED FULL AND FRANK ASSESSMENTS, BUT IN NO WAY APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN DETRIMENTAL TO THE LONG-TERM PROGRAM INITIATIVES.

3. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT RELEASE OF THE STUDY TO THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS WILL GENERATE INTEREST AND CURIOSITY AMONG THE AC/300 MEMBERS AND THAT THEREFORE COPIES SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO EACH OF THEM ON A PERSONAL BASIS AT THE TIME COPIES ARE PROVIDED TO THE TASK FORCE. SINCE GENERAL HEISER PLANS TO USE THE AC/300 GROUP AS A SOUNDING BOARD FOR NATIONAL VIEWS ON TASK FORCE IDEAS AND PROPOSALS, DISTRIBUTION TO AC/300 MEMBERS WOULD SERVE THE PURPOSE OF MAKING THE STUDY AVAILABLE ON A VERY LIMITED, LOW KEY CONFIDENTIAL

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BASIS TO NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNED DIRECTLY WITH THE WORK OF TASK FORCE NINE.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE REPORT APPEARING TO BE A US ATTEMPT TO PRE-DETERMINE WHAT THE TASK FORCE SHOULD RECOMMEND, WE BELIEVE THIS CAN BE HANDLED ADEQUATELY IN A COVER MEMO. THE SAME GOES FOR THE VIEW THAT THE STUDY COVERS MUCH MORE TERRITORY THAN THE TASK FORCE HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO ADDRESS. AFTER ALL, THE US IS PROVIDING THE STUDY ONLY AS A REFERENCE FOR WHATEVER VALUE IT MAY BE TO THE TASK FORCE AND NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES, AND IT SHOULD BE TREATED THE SAME AS OTHER REFERENCES. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE FOLLOWING WORDS BE ADDED TO THE NEXT TO LAST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH TWO OF YOUR PROPOSED TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM, QUOTE AND ON A PERSONAL BASIS TO THE MEMBERS OF AC/300 END QUOTE. IT WOULD THEN BE APPROPRIATE TO DELETE THE LAST SENTENCE OF THE PARAGRAPH.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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